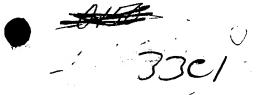
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Section

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Suong-Hu HYON et al.

Serial No.: 08/640,738

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: May 6, 1996 Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: ULTRA HIGH MOLECULAR WEIGHT POLYETHYLENE MOLDED ARTICLE FOR

ARTIFICIAL JOINTS AND METHOD OF PREPARING THE SAME

PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

July 16, 1996

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the last of (1) issuance of a first official action on the merits and (2) expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and UVID 96.

Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. Hereof 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application,

and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement. Two copies of this authorization are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI,

McLELAND & NAUGHTON

Donald W. Hanson

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 27,133

Attorney Docket No. 960381 1725 K Street, N.W., Suite 1000 Washington, D.C. 20006 (202) 659-2930 DWH:jlm